

TOWN OF TRURO  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2006

The Truro Board of Selectmen met for their weekly session on Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Truro Town Hall, 24 Town Hall Road, Truro. In attendance were: Chairman Alfred Gaechter, Vice-Chairman Gary Palmer, Clerk Paul J. Asher-Best, Christopher R. Lucy, Town Administrator Pamela Nolan, Administrative Secretary Julie DuPree, Martha Nagy, Carol Nickerson, Roberta Lema, Mary Abt, Dennis Klass, Skip Childs, Dan Silva, John Garran, Pru Sowers of the Banner. Lloyd F. Rose was absent.

Mr. Gaechter convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes:** Mr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes of the regular and Executive Sessions of April 4, 2006 as presented, and to hold the Executive Session minutes in abeyance. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.

**Public Comment:** Carol Nickerson asked if the Board were being recorded. Mr. Gaechter indicated that they were. She said she asked because there were no microphones in front of them. The meeting was halted while the necessary equipment was distributed.

**Rabies:** Ms. Pajaron explained that rabies has been confirmed all the way to Provincetown. The next step will be a baiting program coordinated with Americorp, USDA and Tufts. 90,000 baits will be placed from Yarmouth to Provincetown. Truro will be baited on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lucy moved to authorize the baiting program for May 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous. Ms Pajaron was directed to prepare a letter for Mr. Gaechter's signature.

**Interview: Cable Advisory Committee:** Ms. Abt has applied to fill the last vacancy on the CAC. Mr. Asher-Best moved to appoint Mary Abt to the Cable Advisory Committee. Mr. Gaechter seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.

**Board of Fire Engineers:** Mr. Garran commented that the BOS have six well-qualified candidates for the five positions, so the BOFE has no recommendation. Three of the applicants could not attend this evening. The Board interviewed John Garran, Skip Childs and Dan Silva. The BOS informed the BOFE that they do want to interview the others and so would act on the re-appointments at their first meeting in May. All of their terms will run out at the end of April, and so Mr. Gaechter directed Ms. DuPree to find out the procedure the BOS would need to take to extend their terms until the BOS meets again in May.

**Loan request:** The Historical Society is having an exhibition this summer entitled "Truro As We Knew It" and has requested the loan of two paintings owned by the town. One painting is "Neil at the Dump, displayed at the Town Hall, and the other is Truro Tigers, hanging at TCS. Mr. Gaechter questioned if the town owned the painting at the school or not. He directed Ms. Nolan to research the circumstances of the school's acquisition of that painting. Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize the loan of the two paintings subject to the determination that the BOS have the authority to do so. Mr. Lucy seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.

**Contract for Videographer:** Ms. Nolan explained that this contract was drawn up by Mr. Sanguinet and reviewed by Town Counsel. It is a standard contract. She said that we have two new videographers who will be trained in the near future. Mr. Gaechter said he had comments and many typos. He suggested adding a phrase "be available for other meetings", but not to have that be a requirement. (Article 2, 2-10). Mr. Asher-Best questioned if they could transmit the meeting electronically so that a tape did not have to be delivered to Orleans. He added that he had received comments from the public about the poor quality. Ms. Nolan has spoken with the equipment company on rectifying these problems. Mr. Gaechter also suggested that since the meeting day of the BOS may change, the language should be revised to reflect this, and they should add under Article 9 a termination clause for the videographer as well as the town. Ms. Nolan is to confirm if the contract was vetted by Town Counsel, and bring it back to the BOS after the changes are made.

**Requests from Police Chief:** Chief Thomas requested that the Board accept the resignation of Ken Oxtoby as part-time dispatcher and appoint Barbara A. Russell as part-time dispatcher. **Mr. Palmer moved to accept the resignation of Ken Oxtoby. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.** Mr. Asher-Best asked if the position had been advertised. Ms. Nolan didn't know and with the Chief out of town, the consensus of the BOS was to put the matter on the next agenda. They need to know more about Ms. Russell also.

**Rental Registration fee:** Ms. DuPree explained that the General Bylaw on renting or leasing buildings calls for the BOS to set the fee annually. Mr. Gaechter reminded the BOS that they had increased the fee by 10% last year. **Mr. Gaechter moved to maintain the fee at \$165.00. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

**Curb Cut Policy:** Mr. Lucy explained that he wanted to add to this policy by addressing various public safety elements, such as site view, etc., but asked that the matter be deferred until after ATM.

**Bells:** Mr. Morris updated the Board. He is waiting for a report from a sound expert from Merrimack College. We need to come down 20 decibels in order to be in conformance. Mr. Gaechter said that they need to be cautious that we are not deadening them so much that no one can enjoy them. Mr. Morris said that the expert told him that the louvers being up or down did not make any difference, but since he had observed leakage, he needs to turn them around. Ms. Nolan said she has received bids of between \$5k and \$8.5k from three companies. Several experts have contacted us to volunteer their help since they read about our problem in the Globe. She plans to try to use the advice of these experts, and if that is not successful, then turn to the paid consultants. Mr. Morris said that to do any of the suggested remedies, the louvers would have to stay in place.

Mr. Morris reported on the work the State is doing along Pilgrim Lake. Mr. Gaechter directed Ms. Nolan to write a letter to the State saying that the BOS appreciate the work they are doing, and suggesting that they do it along the entire length. Mr. Lucy asked that this be done in concert with Provincetown.

Mr. Morris relayed a question from Mr. Rice regarding Snow's Landing. He would like to put up a sign "no storage of kayaks and canoes". Mr. Gaechter said he could put up a sign on his property. He feels that the BOS shouldn't encourage boat storage there. Ms. Nolan reminded the BOS of Town Counsel's opinion that use of the landing was covered under the Colonial Ordinance. Ms. Lema told the Board about the use of the landing when she was young, and that she felt the town owned more there than is being said now. Mr. Asher-Best felt the BOS should do more to preserve our rights to the property. He suggested getting it surveyed, and if it turns out not to belong to the town, it should be taken by eminent domain so that we can retain our rights. The Board concurred that there should be no sign on what is known as town property, but Mr. Rice can put a sign on his own property. Mr. Morris noted that there is no room to turn around on that road anymore. The Board agreed that Ms. Nolan should pursue having a survey done and the bounds put in.

**Bike Tour:** The National Multiple Sclerosis Society has asked for permission to use town roads Truro during their MS 150 Bike Tour on June 24-25, 2006. **Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the use and authorize the Chair to sign the permission form. Mr. Palmer seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

**Motions:** In consultation with the Town Moderator, Mr. Gaechter assigned the motions for ATM. Where a committee has made the request, they will move the article, and the others will be by liaison assignments:

1. Gaechter 2. FinCom 3. Asher-Best 4. Asher-Best 5. Asher-Best 6. Asher-Best 7. Town Building Committee 8. Community Preservation Committee 9. Gaechter 10. Lucy 11. Asher-Best 12. Gaechter 13. Palmer 14. Lucy 15. Gaechter 16. Gaechter 17. Asher-Best 18. Palmer 19. Gaechter 20. Asher-Best 21. Community Preservation Committee 22. Gaechter 23. Gaechter 24. Lucy 25. ConsCom 26. Palmer 27. Gaechter 28. Gaechter. The rest of the articles are zoning and will be moved by the Planning Board.

Mr. Lucy asked if the sound to be piped into the school cafeteria had been arranged. Ms. Nolan was directed to arrange for this. The Board discussed the upcoming ATM. The free cash figure has not been certified yet, but indications are it may be much higher than projected so the BOS need to have another meeting before ATM. They set the meeting for 6:00 p.m. on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Nolan was directed to provide the Board with the different possible scenarios so they can review them prior to their meeting. They discussed whether Ballot question #2 had to be an exact figure or not, and that if free cash is used to reduce the override, but the ballot is already printed with the \$383k how will they let people know that it is now smaller. Ms. Nolan was directed to check with Town Counsel on these. She was also to arrange for the school library for their 6:00 p.m. meeting.

**Town Administrator's Report: (action items)**

- The BOS have received an invitation to the Elder Services 33<sup>rd</sup> annual breakfast meeting on Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gaechter directed Ms. Nolan to ask the COA Director who should go to this.

**Other Business:** Mr. Palmer questioned whether they should act on the BOFE appointments because the terms would run out. Mr. Lucy said they were all pretty solid on who the other applicants are, or instead, they could vote to extend their terms for an additional week. Ms. Nolan thought a simple vote by the BOS would suffice to do this. The Board discussed the fact that they had told the other applicants that they would not be making a decision until they had interviewed the others. After everyone had indicated they were ready to vote the appointments, Mr. Gaechter asked Mr. Lucy as liaison to the BOFE to make a motion. **Mr. Lucy moved to reappoint John Garran, Brian Davis, Jan Worthington, and Chief Prada, and to appoint Dan Silva. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.** Ms Nolan was directed to call Mr. Garran in the morning to let him know of their action.

**Selectmen/Liaison Reports: (action items) none.**

**At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Gaechter moved to adjourn. Mr. Palmer seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

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Alfred Gaechter, Chairman

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Gary Palmer, Vice-Chairman

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Paul Asher-Best, Clerk

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Christopher R. Lucy

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